

MEETING SUMMARY

Sustainability Commission

DATE: Wednesday May 12, 2010
TIME: 4:30 P.M.
LOCATION: Staff Conference Room, City Hall

Commissioners Present

Debby DeWolfe

Jack Welch

Jaime Quinsberry

Eric Wolverton

Jim Sell

John Mead

Todd Barnell

Staff Present

Nicole Woodman

Al White

Rebecca Sayers

Public Present

I. GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Call to Order

Called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes

Debby DeWolfe motioned to approve the April 14th minutes; seconded by Jack Welch. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Public Participation

Items presented during the public participation portion of the Agenda cannot be acted upon by the Commission. Individual Commission members may ask questions of the public, but are prohibited by the Open Meeting Law from discussing or considering the items among themselves until the item is officially placed on the agenda

II. ACTION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. 50 Mile of FUTS

The Sustainability Commission is a partner with this event. As a partner, the Commission would take on coordinating a cleanup in July, which includes getting volunteers, and setting a location and time. John Mead and Debby DeWolfe volunteered to coordinate the clean up. Jack Welch is organizing a number of FUTS walks starting June 16th and going through August 9th. There was discussion on a potential date of the cleanup. The Celtic Festival is scheduled for July 17th and 18th so that would not be a good weekend. The morning of July 24th was suggested as a good date. The FUTS trail along Hwy 180, that starts at Beal and runs to Cheshire is the area identified for the cleanup.

2. City Sustainability Policies

Nicole gave a brief background on the formation of the policies. Nicole discussed the desire to make these policies effective and get “buy in” from employees. There is an overall umbrella policy that encompasses all of the policies that allows for an update yearly. The next steps are implementing these policies and identifying how to do this successfully. We are starting by trying to modify current behaviors through education.

Jack indicated that getting employees excited about the savings the City sees from these policies may create more desire to adhere to the new policies. Saving money can translate into a number of things including saving jobs. We need to get creative on how to get people excited about these practices.

The economic downturn has helped with the acceptance of these types of policies. Not only are they sustainable but they save money and that speaks loudly right now.

John Mead pointed out that there are a lot of acronyms and scientific speech in the documents and he suggests simplifying things to make it more understandable to the everyday employee. Doing face to face education is better received and understood. Being able to visualize the savings and the reductions is helpful whether it be through graphs or dollar signs.

3. Informational items

“World Car Free Day” is September 22, it is an international effort. The Sustainability program is partnering with a number of other local agencies, Nicole will have more information in the following months.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 5:57 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for June 9, 2010.